

Histosols have a high content of organic matter and no permafrost. Most are saturated year round, but a few are freely drained. Histosols are commonly called bogs, moors, peats, or mucks.

Histosols form in decomposed plant remains that accumulate in water, forest litter, or moss faster than they decay. If these soils are drained and exposed to air, microbial decomposition is accelerated and the soils may subside dramatically.

HISTOSOLS MAKE UP ABOUT 1% OF THE WORLD'S ICE-FREE LAND SURFACE.